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**1993/12/01**

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ACTION: CM (05)

INFO: EAP (04) P (01) RA (01) EXN (01) CC (02) K (03) TC (01)  
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ACTION EAP-00

INFO LOG-00 ACDA-17 AIT-03 CIAE-00 C-01 OAS-00 DINT-05  
DOEE-00 DOE-00 EUR-00 HA-09 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00  
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8214  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AIT TAIPEI 2967  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU  
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI  
AMCONSUL SHENYANG  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMCONSUL CHENGDU

CONFIDENTIAL BEIJING 043195

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PREL, APEC, US, CH  
SUBJECT: CHINESE UP-BEAT APPRAISAL OF THE SEATTLE  
MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENTS CLINTON AND JIANG

REF: A) BEIJING 42500; B) FBIS 0W3011203193;  
C) FBIS HK 3011143193

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: AS CHINESE MFA OFFICIALS PRESENT AT THE  
SEATTLE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENTS CLINTON AND JIANG  
RETURN TO BEIJING, THEY (AND THOSE THEY HAVE BRIEFED)  
HAVE BEEN PUTTING A POSITIVE SPIN ON THE MEETING.  
THEIR PERSONAL COMMENTS ARE SIMILAR TO CHINESE PRESS  
REPORTING ON THE CLINTON-JIANG MEETING SOURCED TO VICE  
PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN QICHEN. END SUMMARY.

3. DURING A NOVEMBER 30 ENCOUNTER WITH THE DCM, MFA  
AMERICAN AND OCEANIAN DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR MA ZHENGANG,  
WHO WAS PRESENT AT THE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENTS  
CLINTON AND JIANG, TERMED THE SESSION A "POSITIVE" AND  
"CONSTRUCTIVE" EVENT THAT HAD BEEN NEEDED TO "MAINTAIN  
MOMENTUM" IN U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS. MA SAID HE HOPED  
THE SECRETARY COULD EARLY COME TO CHINA, AND THAT  
WHILE WE COULD NOT SOLVE ALL DIFFERENCES AT MEETINGS  
SUCH AS THE PRESIDENTS' MEETING, IT WAS, NEVERTHELESS,  
IMPORTANT TO GET TOP LEVELS OF BOTH COUNTRIES ENGAGED  
WITH EACH OTHER.

4. VICE PREMIER ZHU RONGJI, IN A NOVEMBER 30 MEETING  
WITH WISCONSIN GOVERNOR THOMPSON (SEPT), COMMENTED  
THAT CHINESE AND INTERNATIONAL REACTION TO THE RECENT  
MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS IN SEATTLE HAD BEEN  
VERY POSITIVE. HE CONTINUED THAT THE U.S. AND CHINESE  
ECONOMIES WERE COMPLEMENTARY, AND THE SEATTLE MEETING  
HAD LAID A GOOD FOUNDATION FOR CLOSER ECONOMIC  
COOPERATION. HE ALSO CONCLUDED HIS MEETING WITH THE  
WISCONSIN GOVERNOR BY REITERATING THE IMPORTANCE OF

CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES.

5. DURING A DECEMBER 1 LUNCH, MFA U.S. DIVISION CHIEF

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LIU XIAOMING, WHO ATTENDED THE CLINTON-JIANG MEETING,  
TOLD POLOFFS THAT JIANG HAD BEEN VERY PLEASED WITH HIS  
MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CLINTON. LIU SAID THAT JIANG  
WAS IMPRESSED WITH PRESIDENT CLINTON'S SINCERITY AND  
CLOSE ATTENTION TO HIS (JIANG'S) REMARKS. ALTHOUGH  
THE MEETING HAD NOT RESULTED IN ANY BREAKTHROUGHS, IT  
HAD CREATED A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH  
OUTSTANDING ISSUES COULD BE ADDRESSED THROUGH FUTURE  
BILATERAL EXCHANGES. THE PRESIDENTS' MEETING HAD NOT  
BEEN INTENDED AS A NEGOTIATING SESSION, REASONED LIU,  
BUT, RATHER AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PRESIDENTS TO  
ESTABLISH RAPPORT, AND IT HAD BEEN A SUCCESS IN  
ACHIEVING THIS LATTER GOAL. ILLUSTRATING THE DEGREE  
OF RAPPORT ACHIEVED, LIU RECOUNTED THAT JIANG HAD  
OFFERED TO ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT CLINTON ON THE CHINESE-  
MADE SAXOPHONE GIVEN HIM BY JIANG, AND SAID THAT THE  
PRESIDENT WAS CLEARLY PLEASED WITH THE GIFT. LIU ALSO  
NOTED JIANG HAD INTERRUPTED HIS INTERPRETER AT ONE  
POINT TO MAKE IT CLEAR IN ENGLISH TO PRESIDENT CLINTON  
THAT HE (JIANG) WANTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO HOLD FUTURE  
"KNEE TO KNEE" TALKS IN CHINA.

6. DURING THE SAME LUNCH, FIRST SECRETARY REN  
GONGPING, WHO WAS NOT IN SEATTLE, TOLD US SEPARATELY  
THAT JIANG WAS IMPRESSED BY PRESIDENT CLINTON, CITING  
HIS YOUTH AND SKILL IN ARRANGING THE LEADERS' MEETING.  
MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF NORTH AMERICAN AND OCEANIAN  
AFFAIRS LU SHUMIN, WHO WAS ALSO A STAY-AT-HOME,

OFFERED HIS THOUGHTS ON NEXT STEPS IN U.S.-CHINA  
RELATIONS. LU SAID CHINA HOPED FOR AN INCREASE IN  
BILATERAL VISITS, POSSIBLY INCLUDING VISITS BY THE  
SECRETARY AND THE PRESIDENT NEXT YEAR. NOTING THAT  
SEVERAL CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS WERE SCHEDULED TO  
VISIT CHINA SOON, LU STATED THAT SUCH VISITS WERE  
IMPORTANT IN INCREASING AMERICAN UNDERSTANDING OF  
CONDITIONS IN CHINA.

7. AFTER AN INITIALLY CAUTIOUS STAB AT ANALYZING THE  
SIGNIFICANCE OF  
THE CLINTON-JIANG ENCOUNTER (REF A),  
CHINESE MEDIA HAS RECENTLY PUT A MUCH MORE POSITIVE  
SPIN ON THE MEETING. XINHUA AND THE PRC-CONTROLLED  
HONG KONG CHINA NEWS SERVICE (ZHONGGUO XINWENSHE) ON  
NOVEMBER 30 BOTH FILED ARTICLES BASED ON A POSITIVE  
APPRAISAL OF THE SEATTLE PRESIDENTS' MEETING BY  
CHINESE VICE PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN QICHEN  
(REFS B AND C). QIAN REPORTEDLY STATED THAT AN  
IMPROVEMENT IN SINO-U.S. RELATIONS CAN BE ANTICIPATED,  
WITH INCREASING RECIPROCAL VISITS, INCLUDING TOP-LEVEL

CONTACTS. THIS WEEK'S OUTLOOK ("LIAOWANG") MAGAZINE,  
ONE OF CHINA'S LEADING WEEKLIES, ALSO FEATURED AN  
UP-BEAT ARTICLE ON THE CLINTON-JIANG MEETING. ROY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Date: 1 May 96

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